Prayer for the right use of God's gifts as stewards

Almighty God, whose loving hand has given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honour you with our substance of time, talent and treasure, remembering the account which we must one day give, and be faithful stewards of your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Reflection on Time, Talent Material Possession

Stewardship of Our Time

The concept of stewardship is common in biblical thought. It implies that humankind is responsible before God for the use of the created world, the social health of people, and the full development of each person's abilities for the building up of community. So then, this understanding of stewardship challenges us to see that our task is to discern God's plan for the created world and humankind, and to commit ourselves as members of the Church to become a part of the transformation which seeks to bring all things and all persons into conformity with that plan.

How we use our God given time and talents is as important as how we use our financial resources. This pertains not only to church, but to every waking hour of our lives. Every minute of every day is given to us by God. Do we use our time intentionally and fruitfully? Do we use it to build up God's kingdom? Every moment need not be a productive one. In fact, our busyness can cause us to forget God. Time spent sitting in silent meditation or with someone in need, slowing down and praying is time well spent. Sabbath time, a day or other designated time during which we refrain from work, can connect us to God who gives us all we need.

Some people are born with natural gifts of athleticism or intelligence, others cultivate skills through years of instruction and practice, while some people are good listeners, others are good organizers. We all have talents, and abilities which require our time to be used for God's purposes. Saint Paul reminds us that we have different gifts: "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit" (1 Corinthians 12:4) Offer your gifts for service; do not hold back. Many congregations have various ministries for members to offer their time, talent, service and spiritual abilities for the purpose of indicating the presence of God's Kingdom. It is the Holy Spirit that gives us these abilities so that we may find joy in doing God's will, as we continue the ministry of Jesus, which is the mission of God.

• As whatever we have, comes to us through the grace of God, what portion can we give back to God of our time, talent, and resources for God's purposes and mission?

Diocese of Jamaica & The Cayman Islands ST. ANDREW PARISH CHURCH

Patron Saint Andrew The Apostle Half - Way -Tree, Kingston 10. Telephone: 968-9366, 926-6692, 926-0988 Office hours 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mon.- Fri. Rectory: 927-0402 Curatage: 926-0800 E-mail: <u>standrewch@cwjamaica.com</u> <u>standrewparishch@gmail.com</u> Website: www.standrewparishchurch.com

<u>Chapel of Ease:</u> <u>St. Thomas - Majesty Gardens 10:30 a.m. and St. Clement's - Kencot 10:30 a.m.</u>



INTENTION FOR THE YEAR: A Call to Intentional Discipleship, Living in the Spirit in a Culture of Diversity

CLERGY

Rector/CurateThe Very Revd. Canon Sirrano Kitson, D. Min.Assistant CurateRevd. Fr. Bertram GayleSupplementary ClergyRevd. Fr. Claude CampbellChurch ArmySister Andrea Taylor-Smith

Wardens

Rector's Warden Mr. Dwayne McKenzie Email (dwayne_ja@yahoo.com) People's Warden Miss Lisa Campbell Email (PeoplesWardenSTAPC@yahoo.com)

Administration

Office Administrator & Ops. Officer Mrs. Merle Thomas Administrative Assistant Mrs. Hortense James Verger - Miss Ann Morrison

The Rector is currently on leave.

Faith Formation and Christian Education

DID YOU KNOW

St. Augustine was impressed by a fifth-century procession of gifts in Rome in which the faithful brought from their own homes things from their kitchen tables. Augustine called this an "admirable exchange" for their gifts God gave back Jesus. A prayer over the gifts used in some Church traditions uses Augustine's language: "Lord, receive our gifts in this wonderful exchange: from all you have given us we bring you these gifts, and in return, you give us yourself."

QUOTE FOR REFLECTION

"Worship is giving God the best that He has given you. Be careful what you do with the best you have. Whenever you get a blessing from God, give it back to Him as a love gift. Take time to meditate before God and offer the blessing back to Him in a deliberate act of worship. If you hoard a thing for yourself, it will turn into spiritual dry rot, as the manna did when it was hoarded. God will never let you hold a spiritual thing for yourself; it has to be given back to Him that He may make it a blessing to others."– Oswalk Chambers

QUESTION FOR REFLECTION

- How can I ensure that I give God the best of what He has given me and avoid hoarding my blessings for myself?
- What does it mean to offer my blessings back to God as a love gift, and how can I cultivate a deliberate act of worship in doing so?

Electronic payment instruction JAMAICAN DOLLARS

Bank Name:	NCB - Half-Way-Tree	
Beneficiary Name:	St. Andrew Parish Church	
Beneficiary Account #:	301045077	
Account Type:	Current Account	
If you encounter any difficulties with the transfer, contact your own		
bank		

Congratulations to all our young people who graduated this year from Prep, Primary, High School or College. We commend you for your hard work and determination! Special prayers for all our youth moving on to new schools, in new places and new spaces. Continue to do well and keep us posted on your progress.

Readings for August 6, 2023: Deut. 8:11 - 20; Psalm 146:4 - 9; Hebrews: 11:8 - 16; Mark 12:13 - 17. Choral Amen: A-men! A-men!

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev'd Bertram Gayle (Assistant Curate, St. Andrew Parish Church)

RECESSIONAL: 220 God of Freedom, God of Justice (*Tune: Cwm Rhondda*)

1. God of freedom, God of justice, you whose love is strong as death, you who saw the dark of prison, you who knew the price of faith touch our world of sad oppression with your Spirit's healing breath.

2. Rid the earth of torture's terror, you whose hands were nailed to wood; hear the cries of pain and protest, God who shed the tears and blood move in us the power of pity, restless for the common good.

3. Make in us a captive conscience quick to hear, to act, to plead; make us truly sisters, brothers, of whatever race or creed teach us to be fully human, open to each other's needs.

President:	The Lord be with you.
All:	And also with you.
President: All:	Go in peace and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.

3. Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come: 'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.

4. When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun, We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun.

ABLUTION

HYMN: 612 O Jesu, blessèd Lord, to Thee (Thomas Hanson Kingo)

1. O Jesu, blessèd Lord, to thee my heartfelt thanks for ever be, who hast so lovingly bestowed on me thy body and thy blood.

2. Break forth, my soul, for joy, and say, 'What wealth is come to me today! My Saviour dwells within me now; how blest am I! How good art thou!

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with All: the Body and Blood of your son Jesus Christ. May we who share His Body live His risen life; we who drink His cup bring life to others; we upon whom your Spirit shines give light to the world. Help us to continue in faithful witness to your Word, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your Name, though Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

President:

The goodness of God the Father go with you. The grace our Lord Jesus Christ protect you. The guidance of the Holy Spirit of God ever lead you. And the Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

PARISH NEWS We welcome all visitors to our worship and fellowship

Birthdays for this week Sis. Alvarine Roberts (Sis. Gem) and Christine Dickson-Edwards 31/07, Rev. Sedley Gooden, Rev. Wesley Wiggan, Rev. Jean Mullings, John Aarons and Yvonne Hinds-Martin 01/08, Sybil Grandison and Brandon Chambers 02/08, Rev. Fr. Douglas G. Barnes and Lilieth West 03/08, Alfred McPherson 04/08, Rev. Denston Smalling and Carroll Haughton 05/08.

Condolence is extended to Lilieth West and family on the passing of her mother, Olive Daley. Also to Marlene "Terry" Hamilton on the passing of her sister, Donna Salmon.

Flowers at the foot of the Altar are in loving memory of Maud Reynolds given by Donna and Douglas Evelyn.

Ministry & Leadership – If you are interested in deepening your faith and training for leadership or Lay Ministry kindly visit the Diocesan website for more information.

Feast of Music Committee: Save the date for 'Feast of Music Encore', Sunday, October 1st, at Campion College.

Birthday Groups Rally of the Twelve Prophets.

Welcome is extended to our National Swimmers who are leaving for El Salvador on the 14th and the Queens Class of 1980 who are worshipping with us.

Mid-week services and Monday Bible Study will be discontinued for the month of August. The Church will be open for prayer on Tuesdays and Fridays, beginning at 9am.

SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK July 30 - Aug. 5

No Services for August

SICK AND SHUT - IN

Alton Tulloch (Priest) Percival Lynch (Priest) Paul Sharpe (Priest) Nancy Baugh

Emily Hemmings Pauline Christie Ellonia Gordon Frederick Green

Hopeton Fraser Neville Hendricks Aston Daley Muriel Smith

INTROIT: Oh Freedom (The Choir)

Opening Hymn: 554 Lift Every Voice and sing (James Weldon Johnson)

1. Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of liberty; let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us; sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us; facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on till victory is won.

2. Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod, felt in the days when hope unborn had died; yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet come to the place for which our fathers sighed? We have come over a way that with tears has be watered; We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered; out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

3. God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the way; thou who has by thy might, led us into the light, keep us forever in the path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee; lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee, shadowed beneath thy hand, may we for every stand, true to our God, true to our native land.

President: "Let the nations rejoice and sing; for God judges the people with righteousness and governs the nations upon earth." (*Ps 67:4*)

+ Praise the Father, Son and Holy Spirit! Alleluia!ALL: Worthy of Praise forever & ever. Alleluia! Alleluia!

HYMNS DURING THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Hymn: 500 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (*To Be Tracked;* Tune: Martyrdom; Words: Horatius Bonar)

1. I heard the voice of Jesus say,'Come unto me and rest;Lay down, thou weary one, lay downThy head upon My breast.'

2. I came to Jesus as I was, Weary, and worn, and sad; I found in Him a resting place, And He has made me glad.

3. I heard the voice of Jesus say, 'Behold, I freely give The living water; thirsty one, Stoop down and drink, and live.'

4. I came to Jesus, and I drank Of that life-giving stream; My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, And now I live in Him.

5. I heard the voice of Jesus say, 'I am this dark world's Light; Look unto Me, thy morn shall rise, And all thy day be bright:'

6. I looked to Jesus, and I found In him my Star, my Sun; And in that Light of life I'll walk Till travelling days are done.

Hymn 495 Amazing Grace (John Newton)

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see

2. Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved; How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed!

President: As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Traditional Revival)

1. Our Father who art in Zion
Hallowed be thy name
Thy kingdom come on earth
Thine will be done on earth
Hallowed be thy name.

3. and lead us not O Lord into temptation *Hallowed be thy name*.
Deliver us, O Lord, From every evil. *Hallowed be thy name*.

2. Give us this day, O Lord	
Our daily bread	
Hallowed be thy name.	
Forgive our sins, we pray	
As we forgive others	
Hallowed be thy name.	

4. For thine the kingdom, The pow'r and glory
Hallowed be thy name.
Be yours this day, O Lord Until eternity
Hallowed be thy name.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Priest: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All: Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

THE AGNUS DEI

O Lamb of God, O Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world hav mercy pan wi soul

O Lamb of God, O Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world hav mercy pan wi soul

O Lamb of God, O Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world: grant us your peace.

THE INVITATION

Priest:The Gifts of God for the People of God.All:Our souls will feast and be satisfied, and we will sing
glad songs of praise to him.

President:	Alleluia. Worship the Lord in the beauty of Holiness
ALL:	Come let us adore the Lord. Alleluia!
President:	Alleluia! The Lord has shown forth His glory
ALL:	Come let us glorify the Lord. Alleluia!
President: ALL:	Alleluia! Our God shall reign forever. Let us praise and exalt the Lord for ever. Amen. Alleluia!

COLLECT FOR PURITY

All: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit. That we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your Holy Name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE KYRIE

Laad, hav mercy, hav mercy pan wi soul; Laad, hav mercy pan fi wi soul, fi wi soul; Laad, hav mercy pan fi wi soul.

Christ, hav mercy, hav mercy pan wi soul; Christ, hav mercy pan fi wi soul, fi wi soul; Laad, hav mercy pan fi wi soul.

Laad, hav mercy, hav mercy pan wi soul; Laad, hav mercy pan fi wi soul, fi wi soul; Laad, hav mercy pan fi wi soul.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

(Refrain) Glory to Maasa Gad, O! Glory to Maasa Gad, O! An peace to Gad piipl, Gad people pan di eart Glory to Maasa Gad, O! 1. Lord God heav'nly King Mighty God and Father We worship you Praise and thanks to you. *R*

2. Lord Jesus Christ,Son and Lamb of GodAll sin you removeHave mercy and hear wi cry. *R*

3. You are the Holy one You are the Lord; most high With the Holy Spirit Glory be to you. *R*

THE COLLECT:

Priest: Let us pray:

Liberating God, whose service is perfect freedom, who delivered your people Israel from slavery in Egypt; we thank you for delivering the people of these lands out of enslavement into freedom: and we pray that by your help we will preserve our freedom, respect, and defend the freedom of others, through him by whom we are made free, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. *Amen.*

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: Eksidos 6:2-13 Fontain Jones

PSALM 114 All stand

(Men read to the asterisk; women read Bold text)

Men:. Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, * Women: the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

- 2. Judah became God's sanctuary * and Israel his dominion.
- 3. The sea beheld it and fled; * Jordan turned and went back.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

President: All:	The Lord be with you And also with you.	
President: All:	Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.	
President: All:	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give God thanks and praise.	
President:	It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Father Almighty, everlasting God:	
	For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.	
	Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:	
SANCTUS:		
	oow'r and might arth are full oh Hosanna upon high, oh Hosanna upon high	
President:	We give thanks to you, Lord our God Therefore, Father, according to His command:	
All:	We remember His death; We proclaim His resurrection; We await His coming in glory.	
President:	And we offer our sacrifice of praise	
Holy S	om, and with whom, and in whom In the unity of the pirit All honour and glory are yours, Almighty Father, and ever.	

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY:

Our Freedom Song

1. Today in sweet Jamaica A joyful song we raise We count our many blessings We lift our voice in praise, For God has brought us thus far And He still hold our hand To bring us to brighter day In this our native land

Refrain:

We are proud Jamaicans And our past we can't forget *For the pow'r which brought* our fathers through Lives strong within us yet.

2. With shackles they did bind us With whips they brought us pain With ropes they hanged us high And they bound us with their chain Some bring Jamaica fame But truth and justice conquered; Right triumphed over wrong So that today we can rejoiced And sing our freedom song. **R**

3. We ne'er forget the struggles Of those who've gone before: Who fought fir peace and justice

(Noel Dexter)

And opened freedoms door. May we still keep the vision of justice in our land and walk into a future bright our heads high, hand in hand. **R**

4. The struggle is not ended Full freedom we must find For though they've freed the body Only we can free the mind The game is not yet over We've merely won the toss And the're more mountains we must climb and many rivers to cross. **R**

5. Some bring Jamaica glory Some her such distress That we hang our heads in shame Today we stand before you And pledge with heart and hand Our selves in loyal service now To you our dear homeland. **R**

THE PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS

All: Father, we offer you these gifts which you have given us; this bread, this wine, this money. With them we offer ourselves, our lives, and our work, to become through your Holy Spirit a reasonable, holy and lively sacrifice. As this bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ, so may we and all your people become channels of your love; through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

- 4. The mountains skipped like rams, * and the little hills like young sheep.
- 5. What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? * O Jordan, that you turned back?
- 6. You mountains, that you skipped like rams? * vou little hills like voung sheep?
- 7. Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, * at the presence of the God of Jacob,
- 8. Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water * and flint-stone into a flowing spring.
- All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit * As it was in the beginning is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.

SECOND READING:	Philemon 8-21	Hasana Pennant-Sisco
GRADUAL:	I am Determined	(Folk Chorus)

I am determined to hold out to the end Jesus is with me, On him I can depend For I know I have salvation I feel it in my soul I am determined to hold out to the end.

HOLY GOSPEL: Luuk 14:16-19

- Priest: Di Laad de ya wid unu. / The Lord be with you.
- An wid vu tu. / And also with you. All:
- Priest: Di Gud Nyuuz bout wi Laad Jiizas Krais azkaadn tu Luuk / The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
- Gluori tu Krais wi Sievya / Glory to Christ our Saviour. All:

After the reading of the Gospel

Priest: Di Guud Nyuuz bout Krais. / The Gospel of Christ.

All: Priez Krais wi Laad. / Praise to Christ our Lord. SERMON

THE CREED: The Nicene Creed - All stand

All:

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven. by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS:

All sing at the beginning of the prayers and at the end of each petition:

Every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart, I will pray. Every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart, I will pray.

President: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth; mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

ACT OF PENITENCE:

President: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins, and clense us from all unrighteousness. (1 Jn 1:8-9)

(Silence is kept)

President: Let us, therefore, confess our sins to Almighty God.

All: Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and one another, in thought, word and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are sorry and repent of all our sins. For your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your Name. *Amen*.

THE ABSOLUTION

President:	Almighty God, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep you in life eternal; through Christ our Lord.	
All:	Amen.	
THE GREETING OF PEACE All stand		
President:	We are the body of Christ. By the one Spirit we were all baptised into one Body, and have all been made to drink of the one Spirit. (1 Cor 12:13)	
All:	Let us then pursue the things that make for peace and build up the common life. (Rom 14:19)	
President: All:	The peace of the Lord be always with you. And also with you.	